

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

S E C R E T STATE 214019

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PO, VT

SUBJECT: GUIDANCE FOR AMBASSADOR LODGE

FOR LODGE

PER YOUR SEPTEMBER 8 MEETING WITH UNDER SECRETARY SISCO
FOLLOWING IS GUIDANCE FOR YOUR MEETING WITH VATICAN
OFFICIALS:

1. PORTUGAL:

A) WHATISVATICAN ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION NOW THAT
GONCALVES IS OUT?

B)HOW DO THEY SEE SITUATION DEVELOPING OVER THE LONGER
TERM?

C) UNITED STATES HAS NO INTEREST IN SUPPORTING ANY
PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT WITH COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION IN IT.
WE BELIEVE THIS IS TIME FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PARTIES AND THE

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MODERATE ELEMENTS IN THE ARMED FORCES TO FORCE THE COMMU-
NISTS OUT OF POWER. THEIR PRESENCE WOULD ONLY BE DESTRUC-

TIVE OF THE VERY ENDS THE OTHERS ARE TRYING TO ACHIEVE. THE PRECEDENT OF A PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT CONTAINING COMMUNISTS WOULD BE VERY BAD REGARDING NATO. IT WOULD ASSIST THE ITALIAN AND SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTIES IN SELLING THEIR VIEW THAT THERE WOULD BE NO INCOMPATIBILITY BETWEEN THEIR OWN ACHIEVING POWER AND MEMBERSHIP IN NATO (YOU SHOULD BE CATEGORICAL ON THIS POINT).

D) DOES THE VATICAN SEE ANYTHING THAT IT MIGHT DO IN THE PORTUGUESE SITUATION?

2. MIDDLE EAST:

A) THE SINAI AGREEMENT IS ANOTHER STEP IN THE DIPLOMATIC PROCESS. IT IS NOT AN END IN ITSELF. WE SHALL CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS. RADICAL ARABS WHO ARE ATTACKING SADAT SEEM UNABLE OR UNWILLING TO RECOGNIZE THAT THE ABSENCE OF A SINAI AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE MAINTAINED A DANGEROUS HIGH-RISK SITUATION.

B) IT WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL IF THE POPE WERE TO FIND IT POSSIBLE TO SPEAK FAVORABLY OF THE AGREEMENT AND OF SADAT'S STATESMANSHIP. (THE PURPOSE IS NOT TO SINGLE OUT THE UNITED STATES BUT RATHER TAKE SOME OF THE CRITICISM AWAY FROM SADAT.)

C) WE DO NOT INTEND TO LEAVE A DIPLOMATIC VACUUM IN THE MIDDLE EAST BUT WILL CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS.

D) OUR ESTIMATE OF THE DIPLOMATIC SITUATION IS THAT CONGRESS WILL APPROVE THE AGREEMENT, INCLUDING THE PARTICIPATION OF AMERICAN PERSONNEL IN IT.

E) ON JERUSALEM THERE IS NOTHING NEW. ULTIMATELY WE SHALL HAVE TO GO TO GENEVA TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF THE OVERALL SETTLEMENT AND AT THAT TIME THE QUESTION OF JERUSALEM WILL BE WITH US.

3. ITALY:

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A) COMMUNIST SUCCESSES IN THE JUNE 15 REGIONAL ELECTIONS WERE, TO SAY THE LEAST, UNFORTUNATE. IF REPEATED AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL A TRAGIC SITUATION WOULD BE CREATED.

B) WE BELIEVE NEW BLOOD, NEW ENERGIES, NEW PERSPECTIVES ARE NEEDED INSIDE THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY TO PRODUCE A NEW GENERATION OF DYNAMIC REFORMIST LEADERS THAT WILL RE-ESTABLISH THE DC AS THE BASIS FOR A DEMOCRATIC ALTERNATIVE TO THE COMMUNISTS.

" - RE CONSIDERING WHAT, IF ANYTHING, WE MIGHT DO TO
SUPPORT THIS PROCESS AND WOULD WELCOME VATICAN IDEAS, IF IT
HAS ANY TO SUGGEST. KISSINGER

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